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17 January 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence
Executive Director

FROM : Deputy Director for Intelligence

SUBJECT : Year-End Results of the 1983 DI Research
Program ..

1. You have just completed spending some time reviewing the draft Research Program for 1984. Both this year and last your comments on the Program have been couched in terms of "Looks great, if you can get it done."

2. I am happy to report that in 1983 the Directorate completed 839 projects within the scope of the Research Program--an increase of about 300 over the 1982 output. This represents 87 percent of the projects planned. Particularly noteworthy performances were turned in by OEA, which exceeded its goal by nearly 20 percent--half again as many papers as were produced against the 1982 plan; SOVA, which produced a third more papers in 1983 than in 1982; the Office of Imagery Analysis, which more than tripled its 1983 production of papers related to the Research Program over 1982; and Clare Rice's Office of Central Reference, which increased its production of biographic research papers and annexes more than five-fold. No office completed less than two-thirds of its planned Research Program and nearly all completed seventy-five percent or more.

3. By office:

-- ALA: Completed almost 90 percent of its planned research projects. Particularly noteworthy was the research work done on two priority themes--Central America and South Africa. Especially significant on Central America was a series of economic papers and the landmark analysis on the Catholic Church. On South Africa, ALA wrapped up a three-year effort involving seven major research papers and an assessment of the outlook for the next decade.



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- EURA: EURA accomplished 87 percent of its planned program. Particularly noteworthy were its efforts on INF and related issues and the trailblazing work it did on quantitative methods [redacted]

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- OEA: As part of OEA's exceptional performance in exceeding its planned program by nearly 20 percent, the Office's effort on Southeast Asia and Chinese political and economic affairs should be singled out. It also completed [redacted] despite a lack of experienced analysts and the need for supervisors to focus on analyst training.

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- NESA: This Office achieved 80 percent of its planned output on the Research Program, an exceptional performance in view of the level of effort required on Lebanon, Iran/Iraq, and various other regional crises. NESA produced a dozen papers under its stability theme, including work on Israel, the Palestinians, Lebanon, Sudan, Saudi Arabia, Libya and Pakistan.

- SOVA: This office completed about 75 percent of its original goal, including groundbreaking efforts in Soviet doctrine, planning, tactics, targetting, and command and control, as well as works on Soviet space and no-first-use policy. SOVA's building-block studies on Soviet defense industries mark the beginning of an upturn in this area and set the stage for considerably more work on this area.

- OGI: In completing 66 percent of its probably overly-ambitious program, OGI came closest to meeting its goals on commodities, energy, narcotics, and the Soviets in the Third World. In some areas such as international finance and LDC economies, the press of current work cut into basic research. On terrorism, the heavy demands for ad hoc reports delayed scheduled work.


- OSWR: In completing nearly 75 percent of its goal, OSWR did particularly well on land-based ballistic missiles, general purpose weapons, SLBM and ASW systems, life sciences and technology transfer. By the same token, a shortage of analysts hindered progress on such issues as space systems, directed energy, nuclear proliferation, Soviet

physical sciences and future military technologies-- areas which will receive substantial help in FY 84 and 85.

-- OIA: The Office of Imagery Analysis completed 114 percent of its planned program, with special progress on Third World military development, important methodological and analytic breakthroughs on international narcotics, several papers on Soviet oil fields that contributed significantly to our assessment of Soviet oil prospects in the 80s and the NIE on this subject. In addition, OIA is devoting an increasing percentage of its time to support of DO and DDS&T operational projects.

4. All in all, I am very pleased with the level of accomplishment against the Research Program. The charge can no longer be justified that in meeting current intelligence requirements and needs and providing support to policymakers, we are neglecting longer term research and the development of in-depth knowledge required to provide high quality assessments to policymakers. Frankly, given the number of crises, wars, and demands for quick reaction support from this Directorate, I am amazed that we were able to do this well.

5. As we await publication of the 1984 Program, I thought you would find the above of interest.


Robert M. Gates

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